

## **President's Insights June 2024**

### **We are waiting for you in Quito!**

VOSH/International is 52 years old. With 112 chapters, it is the world's largest organization of volunteer optometrists.

Our growth has been impressive in Latin America. We have chapters in Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, México, Nicaragua, Panamá, Perú, the Dominican Republic, and Venezuela. Thanks to this presence in Latin America, we have a collaboration agreement with the Latin American Association of Optometry and Optics (ALDOO). ALDOO will hold its congress (CLOO) in Quito, Ecuador, on October 25 and 26, 2024.

We are happy to inform you that VOSH/International will hold its annual meeting for the first time in Quito, Ecuador on the morning of Saturday, October 26. The session will be in Spanish with translation into English and also via Zoom.

On the afternoon of October 26, the topic of the ALDOO congress will be public health. The lectures will be presented by VOSH/International speakers that afternoon.

We hope to see a significant representation of the Latin American VOSH and SVOSH chapters in Quito. Subject to our sponsor's confirmation, VOSH/International will offer one small travel grant to each VOSH or SVOSH Latin American chapter to assist with the costs of attending our event. Additionally, ALDOO will have a reduced registration fee for VOSHERs. An invitation will be sent to each of the Latin American VOSH and SVOSH chapters to benefit from this offer.

Those who stay until Sunday, October 27, can participate in a humanitarian clinic at the REMAR Foundation in Quito. This clinic is coordinated by the Federation of Optometrists of Ecuador (FEDOPTE) and VOSH/International.

Quito was the first city to be declared a World Heritage site by UNESCO in 1978. Founded in the 16th century on the ruins of the ancient Inca city, it has the best-preserved historic center in Latin America.

Visiting Quito and participating in the ALDOO Congress and the VOSH/International meeting will, without a doubt, be a rich and unique experience for everyone. We are waiting for you!

Hector Santiago  
President  
VOSH/International

An aerial photograph of a city built on a hillside, with a prominent snow-capped mountain in the background. The city features a mix of residential and commercial buildings, and a church spire is visible on a hill. The sky is clear and blue.

ALDOO Congress  
October 25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**VOSH/ International Meeting**  
Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024 am

**VOSH Lectures at ALDOO Congress**  
Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup> pm

**VOSH Humanitarian Clinic**  
October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024